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FILE DESIGNATION

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A-254

NO.

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INFO : Amembassy MOSCOW

FROM : Amembassy OTTAWA

DATE: March 27, 1969

SUBJECT : Soviet Queries on ABM System and Sino-Soviet
Border Dispute

REF :

Attached is a Memorandum of Conversation between the reporting officer and Soviet Commercial Attache Solntsev in which the latter raised questions concerning the recent U.S. decision to install an ABM system and concerning U.S. views on the Ussuri River dispute between the U.S.S.R. and Mainland China.

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Enclosure to
OTTAWA A-254

EUR

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

DATE: March 24, 1969

PARTICIPANTS: A. F. Holleman
Third Secretary
Embassy of the Netherlands

G. Solntsev
Commercial Attache
Embassy of the U.S.S.R.

J. Broh-Kahn
Amembassy OTTAWA

SUBJECT : Solntsev Query Re ABM and U.S. Views on
Sino-Soviet Border Dispute

Mr. Holleman brought over Mr. Solntsev to introduce him to me at the Pakistan National Day reception. After discussing hockey and sports for awhile, Mr. Solntsev asked me what the purpose of the ABM installation was. I replied that it was defensive in nature to protect our missile sites. Solntsev wanted to know if the protection was mainly against China and I said that the installations were meant to protect our missiles from attack, perhaps by accident, from any quarter without designating any countries. Solntsev also wanted to know what the U.S. views on the Sino-Soviet border dispute were. I replied that I could not speak for the United States Government on this, but assumed in general that our country hoped for peaceful relations throughout the world.

JBR
ECON: JBroh-Kahn:mlb
3/25/69

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